

GOVERNMENT OF GUÅHAN

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) in collaboration with the Guam Department of Education is reporting a case of mumps at Simon Sanchez High School. The student was diagnosed with Mumps at the Department of Public Health and Social Services Northern Regional Community Health Center. The student has since returned to school after a medical clearance was issued.

Mumps is a disease caused by the Mumps virus and is characterized by fever, swelling, and pain/tenderness of the parotid glands and or other salivary glands. Mumps is best known for the swelling of the cheeks and jaw. It is spread through the air or through direct contact with infected droplets or saliva when a person coughs, sneezes or talks. Sharing of contaminated items such as cups or soda cans my cause further spread of the disease.

In accordance with the Guam law, all students entering school from kindergarten through twelfth grade are required to have proof of 2 (two) doses of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. School officials are currently assessing those students identified as close contact to ensure compliance with vaccination requirements. Faculty, staff and parents of students who may have been exposed to the case of Mumps are being notified by letter and will be provided information on vaccination activities planned at the school campus.

If you have any questions, please contact Annette L. Aguon, Immunization Program Manager Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at 735-7160/7143.

J. PETER ROBERTO, ACSW

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Director